



Sunday 07 February, 2021

Second Sunday before Lent

*If a household are praying together,
one person may act as leader and the
others as the congregation and they
join in the words in bold type.*

If alone, read all the words aloud.

*You may want to light a candle before you begin, and
have a Bible, cross or crucifix hand.*

*You might prepare for this act of worship by listening to
some music, or by being still.*

*The opening of John's Gospel is heard again, but in the
context of creation. God continually creates and re-creates
around us and with us. Are we open to the possibilities
that brings?*

Preparation

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Act of Penitence

We confess to you
our lack of care for the world you have given us.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

We confess to you
our selfishness in not sharing
the earth's bounty fairly.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

We confess to you
our failure to protect resources for others.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Words of forgiveness

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Special Prayer for this week

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Word of the Lord

First Reading | Colossians 1.15–20

A reading from the letter to the Colossians

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel | John 1. 1-14

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ.

Affirmation of faith

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

*You may wish to offer prayer in your own words,
or be prompted by the words here*

*We pray for our world, especially at this time of anxiety
and fear...*

We pray for our nation and its well-being...

*We pray for neighbours, family and friends and we
remember all those self-isolating at the moment...*

*We pray for all who are sick, worried or anxious, and for
those who feel cut off from friends and family...*

*We pray for those who have died in recent days, and all
whom we remember with love and affection*

The Lord's Prayer

Joining with Christians throughout the world,
we pray:

Our Father....

Or

Our Father in heaven....

The Grace

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the fellowship of the
Holy Spirit be with us all, evermore. Amen**

Readings for the coming week:

Monday	Psalm 30	Mark 6.53-end
Tuesday	Psalm 36	Mark 7.1-13
Wednesday	Psalm 34	Mark 7.14-23
Thursday	Psalm 37	Mark 7.24-30
Friday	Psalm 31	Mark 7.31-end
Saturday	Psalm 42	Mark 8.1-10

**Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate
us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.**